

BOOK NOTICE

Nomenclator Zoologicus, a list of the names of genera and subgenera in zoology from the tenth edition of Linnaeus, 1758, to the end of 1935. Edited by Sheffield Airey Neave. Published by The Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London, N.W.8., 1939. Vol. I; A-C. p. xiv + 958. Bound in buckram.

Specimen sheets from this volume indicate the enormous amount of effort that has entered into the compilation of this work that attempts to give a record of the bibliographical origins of the name of every genus or subgenus in zoology since 1758. It should be of particular interest and value to systematists in entomology because the names of the Insecta outnumber all other classes combined. The Mollusca come second and the Arachnida third. An important and useful feature "is the system by which a homonym, of which there are some 18,000, is followed by a cross-reference to any new names that may have been proposed for it." In the entire work approximately 192,000 names of genera or subgenera are included. The total entries amount to more than 225,000, of which about 15,000 are supplementary reference or cross-references, leaving a balance of 210,000, of which 13.8 per cent represent alternative spellings. It is assumed also that the work contains not less than 5,000 names that have been omitted from previous nomenclators and the "Zoological Record."

The complete work will require four volumes, and the remaining three will appear at intervals of about six months. The price for the complete set is 8 guineas, post free. This bears no relation to the initial cost, and it is hoped that it is a price which will enable zoologists, institutions, and libraries to purchase copies.—H. B. W.